



How does the DNR's Firewood Emergency Rule affect my camping experience in Wisconsin?

If you're a camper from outside Wisconsin, please don't bring firewood with you. It will be confiscated and, if the wood is from a quarantined area, you could be violating federal and state laws and be subject to substantial fines. If you have firewood with you that was purchased in Wisconsin, please have a receipt ready to show proof of that purchase.



If you're a camper from Wisconsin, then this rule doesn't affect you at all, unless you buy or cut your own firewood from a location outside of the state. If so, don't bring it into a State Park or other DNR-managed property.

Regardless of where you're from, everyone can take steps to keep Wisconsin State Parks, forests, and other forested areas free of emerald ash borer and other pests and diseases.

- ✓ Buy your firewood inside or near the property where you plan to camp
- ✓ Burn all the wood that you purchase or leave it behind for another camper
- ✓ Don't move firewood around with you on your camping trip

1. **Where did the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) come from?** The native range of EAB is eastern Russia, northern China, Japan and Korea.
2. **When was EAB first discovered in North America?** EAB was first identified in southeast Michigan in 2002. It likely arrived several years earlier.
3. **How did it get to North America?** We don't know exactly, but it most likely traveled in ash wood used for stabilizing cargo in ships or for packing consumer products.
4. **Where is EAB now?** As of January, 2006, EAB had been found in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Ontario, Canada. It also appears that small infestations have been eradicated from Virginia and Maryland. EAB has not been detected in Wisconsin.
5. **How does EAB harm ash trees?** The larval stage of EAB feeds under the bark of trees, cutting off the flow of water and nutrients. Infested trees gradually die over a 2-4 year period.
6. **Which trees are susceptible?** All sizes and even very healthy ash trees can be killed. All of Wisconsin's native ash trees (green, white and black ash), as well as many horticultural cultivars (cultivated varieties of ash or hybrids between species of ash), are susceptible to EAB infestation.



Buy firewood locally. Burn firewood locally.

7. How important are ash trees to Wisconsin?

About 30 percent of our street trees are ash, and the loss of these trees would be devastating to many communities and very expensive to remove and replace. There are also approximately 717 million ash trees in Wisconsin's forests. Ash serves as an important species in our northern and southern forests and is a key component of forests growing in wet areas including swamps and along river ways.

8. What does EAB look like?

The adult beetle is dark metallic green and about one-half inch long.



- 9. How does EAB spread?** EAB moves short distances by flying and longer distances through movement of infested ash. Adults typically do not fly far from where they emerge, but this depends on the availability of food (ash trees). In Michigan, studies have shown that the vast majority of insects fly only several hundred yards from where they emerge. EAB is most commonly spread long distances through the movement of infested firewood, nursery stock or ash logs.

- 10. What is being done about EAB?** There is a national effort to limit the spread and impact of EAB and the plan guides federal, state and local management efforts. Infested areas are quarantined. Eradication of outlying infestations, where all ash within ½ mile of infested trees are cut and destroyed, is being implemented in many areas.

- 11. What is being done in Wisconsin?** The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the DNR, U.S. Forest Service, the University of Wisconsin and other state and local agencies and groups are working together to educate the public and plan for a possible infestation.

- 12. Is there anything I can do now to protect the ash trees in my yard from EAB?** There are chemical treatments available to protect ash trees from EAB, but they are not 100 percent effective. If EAB is found in Wisconsin, the current plan calls for all trees within one-half mile of infested trees to be removed. Chemically-treated trees will also be cut and destroyed if they fall within this eradication zone. The decision to treat is a personal preference, but as long as eradication is planned, treated trees will not be given any special consideration.

- 13. Is ash still a viable choice when considering what to plant in my yard?** In general, having a diversity of species in your yard, on your street or in your community is your best defense against all tree health problems. If ash comprises 10 percent or more of the tree species in your local area, it would be best to choose an alternative. Ongoing studies are testing native ash and cultivars for resistance to EAB feeding injury. Results are preliminary; resistant cultivars may be available at a future date. Check with your state or county horticultural extension agent for the latest information.



- 14. What can I do to help?** Educate yourself on how to recognize signs and symptoms of EAB. Two excellent sources of information may be found at www.emeraldashborer.info and <http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives>. Report possible sightings of EAB by calling 1-800-462-2803



Keep Wisconsin's Forests Healthy

Watch Out for EAB!



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